

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 5-15, 17, 22-27, and 29-34 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 16, 18-21, and 28 were cancelled herein; claims 29-34 were added herein; and claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 17, and 22 were amended herein.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 17, and 22 were amended to change dependencies. Claim 11 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 20 (and intervening claims 18 and 19). Claim 15 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 16.

Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection should be entered even though the application is after final because the application is in condition for allowance, as it presents only allowable independent claims and claims dependent thereon. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and the application be allowed.

§ 102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1 and 3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by Gehrke, U.S. Patent No. 1,932,817. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 1 has been deleted and claim 3 has been amended to be dependent on claim 11, which now contains allowable subject matter. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 11, 14, 15, and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by Ryan, U.S. Patent No. 1,428,662. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 20 (as well as the intervening claims); and claim 15 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 16. Claims 14 and 17 which are dependent on claims 11 and 15 respectively are also therefore allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

§ 103 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Gehrke, U.S. Patent No. 1,932,817, in view of Wolfe, U.S. Patent No. 1,900,966. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 2 has been amended to be dependent on claim 11, which now contains allowable subject matter. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 5-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Gehrke, U.S. Patent No. 1,932,817, in view of Hanano, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0062044. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claims 5 and 7 has been amended to be dependent on claim 11, which now contains allowable subject matter; and claims 6, 8, 9, and 10 are dependent on claims 5 and 7 respectively. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Ryan, U.S. Patent No. 1,428,662, in view of Wolfe, U.S. Patent No. 1,900,966. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 12 is dependent on claim 11, which now contains allowable subject matter. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Ryan, U.S. Patent No. 1,428,662. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 13 is dependent on claim 11, which now contains allowable subject matter. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 18, 19, and 21-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Ryan, U.S. Patent No. 1,428,662, in view of Hanano, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0062044. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claims 18, 19, and 21 have been deleted; claim 22 has been amended to be dependent on claim 15, which now contains allowable subject matter; and claims 23-27 are dependent on claim 22. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 28 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by Gehrke, U.S. Patent No. 1,932,817, in view of Lammers, U.S. Patent No. 6,478,453. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not necessarily concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 28 has been deleted. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant also notes that there may be other arguments which were not presented herein, and Applicant does not concede those arguments by not having presented them herein. Applicant also does not necessarily agree with the correctness of statements made in the Office Action that were not rebutted herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims as all rejections have been overcome. Early notice of allowability is kindly requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at 651-733-6750 with any questions or comments.

Please grant any extension of time, if necessary for entry of this paper, and charge any fee due for such extension or any other fee required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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